



The Oscillator



"All the Electrons that are Fit to Flow"

The Official Newsletter of the DVHRC

October 2010

Kutztown XXIII in words and pictures

"The best one yet", "Great deals all around", "You guys have the best show there is", "Fantastic turnout - more radios that I see in 20 years back home".

These were just a few of the many positive comments heard directly at Kutztown.

Further, many comments were posted online at antiqueradios.com and rec.antiques.radio+phono. They are excerpted below.

"I am well tired but happy after a great weekend, fine weather and finer friends."

"I really need to show up for one of these. It was a great one guys."

"A truly fine radio event. Us left coasters can only dream of ever attending a K-town event."

"Someday on my bucket list I hope to visit this event."



"What a great 2 days, both selling and buying! Met up with a number of ARF'rs. Lots of nice folks."

"Came home with a beautiful Stromberg Carlson 520-J table radio and a real nice recapped Zenith 8-S-463 along with a lot of odds and ends."

"I'm overwhelmed with radio."

"It was a great one guys. I had a blast. I sold enough stuff to pay for my purchases. Got discounts on stuff from my table neighbors since I brought extra extension cords and shared them. One guy was a retired chief engineer from a

radio station. I talked with him for hours before he left. He sold me a bag full of 6V6GT's for a buck apiece and only one bad one in the bunch. His partner sold me a really nice working Zenith TO for \$60. Another guy sold me the guts from a Magnavox console for \$40. Push pull 6V6 stereo amp and tuner and it works just fine after a little cleaning. It sounds really nice. I have more fun meeting and talking to people. I even ran into another guy named Doug who had a son named Doug at the console



burning. They even shared their bottle of Yukon Jack with me. I can't wait until May."



Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club

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The Oscillator is the monthly newsletter of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club.

We welcome information relating to radio and television history and collecting. Submissions should be sent by the 25th of the prior month to saegers@ptd.net. Personal views, opinions and technical advice do not necessarily reflect those of members, officers or Board of Directors of the DVHRC, nor is the DVHRC responsible for any buying or selling transactions.

Dues are \$20 per year and can be paid at a meeting or mailed to the above address.

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"It's been six years now since I went to my first Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club meet, the famous Hurricane Ivan Kutztown of Fall 2004. That was the only rainy Kutztown where any rain really got well under the pavilion roof.

"But rain or shine this meet has proven to be my best bet for a fun and successful old radio flea market even coming from Vermont. However it has become so much more than that. Mike Koste has called it a radio meet/camping trip/frat party and I'd agree. But it's also become a great group of friends I happen to have 400 miles away."

"I arrived late Thursday night to set up my flea booth, very few people come this early. But I always seem to get there late morning Friday if I stay nearby so this has worked for me. In future I may just arrive by dinner to a nearby motel so I can get to bed earlier. I gabbed a little and walked the dogs and it was off to bed. It was a bit rainy that night but cleared up towards morning. I camped out as usual about 100 ft. from the pavilion.

"By the time I made some coffee and woke up enough to get over to the pavilion it was 8 AM and dozen or so dealers were arriving and setting up. This meet has developed a "soft start" where dealer setup runs from Friday early AM until dinnertime. I find it SO much more fun than the old Rochester routine I did for quite a few years of up at 4 AM Wednesday. Plus

this flea lasts two days, a real



Kevin Hartman, raffle radio winner two days with most dealers still setup at noon on Saturday."

"I sold a bit on Friday but not too much. I did buy a bunch of parts I needed and enjoyed shopping. Prices were even more all over the map than



usual.

But soon it was dusk and time for the traditional Console Campfire of unsalvageable cabinets. First, though a couple were rescued. I grabbed a '41 Zenith that we all judged not too far gone. The best fire action was no doubt from the wasted wooden jukebox frame about halfway through the evening. I took some video of the festivities for the first time later included in my photo album of the meet. Plus I had a little single malt Scotch, one of the only times a year I drink it. But there's something about a burning radio cabinet that brings out the warm peatiness



of it."

"Saturday dawned chilly but clear and I started walking around about 7 AM. Pretty soon I struck a bargain on a 1960 kitsch lamp that looks just like a bucket of Miller beer on ice. I always seem to buy one neat vintage but non-radio item. I also picked up a bunch of capacitors from Antique Audio as well as a cool 1930s Philips radio with stand up glass dial on top (needs some work on said dial). I also found a cute Lafayette tube tester that just tests post-

war tubes, perfect as my Hickok 540 doesn't test many of these later tubes. I admired the Zenith Baby Stratosphere but didn't have cash enough anywhere near the 20 K asking price."

"Later on the Buy It Now area opened up and I did pick up a perfectly sound if fair shape little Grundig tube set for a dollar. Through the morning I also sold off most of what I had brought. I was happy as that's part of the fun."

"The auction began at 1 PM but I was there around 2 as I had started packing and that took awhile despite how much I had sold. I did stop in to take photos and video, I noted the club's plan of



"classing up" the auction was working well.

"One item's auction I videoed was a box of Western Electric tennis ball tubes that went to \$1400- without meeting reserve price. But other items I saw on the block made decent to good prices and met reserves."

"I was quite tired when I left

but SO happy to have gone. Don't miss the May 2011 Kutztown meet, and many



thanks to the DVHRC and Renninger's Promotions for all their fine work that makes this event possible!

"Was a great time getting to see everyone again, yack, and come home with a few projects and parts, and I now have my first AK Cathedral thanks to John, and its the perfect match to some of the crotchwood veneer I have."

"Another meet, bigger and better yet!"

"I still arrive on Friday at noon and its in full tilt by then, I need to drive down on Thursday night and get here earlier now... the second pavilion is about 1/3 full with radio now and hustling as much as the first... just better and better."

"I managed NOT to bring home any big consoles this time, there were a couple I

could have but I'm beyond full now so that was good. Found some nice table sets though. There was a nice combination of projects and nice stuff this time, and alot of parts vendors too. Mark Oppat was always busy with a customer, Mike Koste had new stock (and a couple knobs I've been looking for for several years now) and God Bless Gary Schneider for bringing his extensive wooden knob collection as I was able to get the Stromberg Carlson Knobs I've been looking for for over 10 years now and the



movie dial knobs... and at very reasonable prices.

"I also got my dial cover from Mark Palmquist who was there from Georgia and got a nice eyeful of all the patterns John Okolowicz had brought."

"I sold off the few items i brought, and I've heard of ex-

cellent sales from other vendors and vendors of restorations too as with good weather there was a lot of general public around."



"Great seeing everyone again, this is such a friendly meet!"

Some financial results from Kutztown XXIII

Revenue:

- Parvin donation items - \$1521
- Raffle Radio - \$197
- T-shirts and caps - \$85
- Capacitor - \$110
- Auction Tickets - \$174
- Buy IT Now - \$321
- Gross Auction Take - \$5599

Total Revenue - \$7997

Expenses:

- Auction payouts - \$5059
- Member steak dinners - \$320
- Renningers Hall Rental - \$200

Total Expenses - \$5579

Net income - \$2418

Thanks . . .

. . . to the many members of the club who donated their time to make the meet a success.

. . . a **big** thank you to Bob Parvin who donated his entire tube collection to the club. Bob also donated a large amount of parts, parts chassis, and other items to the club including a Hickok 6000 tube tester. Many of the items have already been sold to benefit the club's treasury.

Upcoming Events

Monthly meeting

October 12 7:30pm
Telford Community Center

Monthly meeting

November 9 7:30pm
Telford Community Center

Annual Christmas Party

December 14 7:30pm
Telford Community Center

Your article could be here

What's the hardest part of being the *Oscillator* editor? Deadlines? Printing snafus? Carpel-tunnel-syndrome? NO! Its content - finding enough to fill these pages. Please consider submitting articles, pictures or whatever. See page 2 for submission info.